

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 12026 261245Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 PC-01 IO-13 DHA-05 /081 W

-----069523 261437Z /43

R 260939Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5640

INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMCONSUL MADRAS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 12026

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, IN, CE

SUBJECT: FURTHER INDIAN REACTION TO SRI LANKA SITUATION

REF: MADRAS 1371 (NOTAL)

1. MOST NEW DELHI NEWSPAPERS CARRIED ARTICLES AUGUST 26 HIGHLIGHTING GSL EFFORTS TO KEEP THE PEACE IN SRI LANKA. SEVERAL PAPERS ALSO REPORTED A STATEMENT BY CONGRESS PARTY PRESIDENT BRAHMANANDA REDDY EXPRESSING CONCERN OVER DEVELOPMENTS IN SRI LANKA AND STATING THAT INDIAN CITIZENS THERE SHOULD RECEIVE "ADEQUATE PROTECTION IN RESPECT OF THEIR PERSON AND PROPERTY." THE SAME REPORTS ALSO NOTED AN APPEAL BY EIGHT CONGRESS PARTY MPS TO THE PRIME MINISTER AND THE FOREIGN MINISTER TO "ENSURE PROTECTION OF INNOCENT LIVES FROM VIOLENCE AND CREATION OF AN ATMOSPHERE OF PEACE, GOODWILL AND AMITY" IN SRI LANKA. MEANWHILE, PRESS COVERAGE IN NEW DELHI OF THE SUCCESSFUL DMK-LED GENERAL STRIKE IN MADRAS ON AUGUST 24 HAS BEEN PERFUNCTORY.

2. EDITORIALS IN THE AUGUST 26 EDITIONS OF "INDIAN EXPRESS" AND "HINDUSTAN TIMES" BLAMED THE GOVERNMENT OF FOERM PRIME LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MINISTER BANDARANAIKE FOR CREATING THE SITUATION WHICH LED TO THE CURRENT TROUBLES. THEY URGED INDIANS, SPECIFICALLY THE DMK, TO AVOID ACTIONS WHICH MIGHT AGGRAVATE SINHALESE-TAMIL TENSION.

3. CONGEN MADRAS HAS REPORTED (REFTEL) LIVELY MANEUVERING FOR POSITION AMONG TAMIL-NADU'S POLITICAL PARTIES OVER THE

SRI LANKA SITUATION. A RESOLUTION INTRODUCED IN THE STATE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY BY THE RULING AIADMK PARTY CALLING ON THE GOI TO SEND A CABINET MINISTER TO SRI LANKA TO "HELP RESTORE PEACE" RECEIVED SUPPORT FROM ALL THE OPPOSITION PARTIES EXCEPT THE DMK, WHICH WAS CONSEQUENTLY LABELED "UNHELPFUL" BY SOME OF ITS COLLEAGUES IN THE OPPOSITION.  
GOHEEN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, CITIZEN PROTECTION  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009